**Napoleon Bonaparte, 1769–1821**

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| Napoleon on horse.jpg | http://my.hrw.com/images/points/1.gif | 220px-DelarocheNapoleon.jpg |
| http://my.hrw.com/images/points/1.gif | | http://my.hrw.com/images/points/1.gif |
| *Napoleon on Horseback* at the St. Bernard Pass, by Jacques-Louis David, 1801 | http://my.hrw.com/images/points/1.gif | Napoleon at Fontainebleau, by Paul Delaroche, 1814 |

**The people who knew or met Napoleon held different opinions about him. He inspired fierce loyalty in his troops. His wife Josephine adored him. Some other observers, though, saw Napoleon as cold and unfeeling.**

**As is the case with famous people, historians and artists have also portrayed Napoleon in different ways, depending on their points of view. Compare the two portraits of Napoleon above and how the artists’ viewpoints differed.**

**What is the message in each of the pictures? What are the significance of the date for each?**

The message in the portrait from 1801is to portray Napoleon as a hero on horseback who is a good leader while the portrait from 1814 portrays him as an overweight stout man who doesn’t seem to be satisfied or honored by anyone. The dates are important because it shows Napoleon in the eyes of others during 1801 which seems positive but 13 years later in 1814, the second portrait makes him seem like he became a worse man overtime.

**Which of the portraits is more realistic and why?**

The second one because in the first portrait there are many characteristics that are unreal to begin with which exist to glorify Napoleon. Napoleon wasn’t riding a horse at the St. Bernard pass, it is said that he was most likely riding a mule which wouldn’t present Napoleon as the hero the artist thought he was. Also the scenery is more true to history in the second portrait. In most cases Napoleon wouldn’t be out there with his troops battling alongside them but instead inside an office devising of military strategies to take.

**How does each reflect different aspects of Napoleon’s personality as well as the rise and decline of his fortunes?**